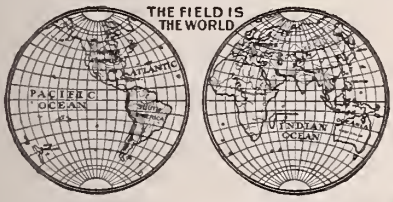
MISC.

The World-Wide Sunday School Field

A News-Letter to the Friends of the Sunday School



World's Sunday School Association

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New York City

Address all Communications to
216 Metropolitan Tower, 1 Madison Avenue
New York City

A PERSONAL WORD FROM THE JOINT GENERAL SECRETARY

The first message from the new Secretary and the new Headquarters is a grateful acknowledgment of indebtedness to my beloved friend, Marion Lawrance, for those visions of service and standards of work that have come out of these years of privileged association with him in a friendship never to be broken.

And there is unstinted praise for the fine records of past work which have come to the New York office because of the splendid business administration of the World's Work by Mr. Bert Cashman, Mr. Lawrance's secretary, whose faithful work, high ideals and delicate personal touch is demonstrated in every department of the work.

To carry into the new administration the work, ideals and spirit of the past is no light task. Only the leadership of the Master will make possible the going on from strength to strength. And that strength is promised to those who ask in the Master's name.

Continuing the custom of the Chicago office, the staff of the new World's Office assembles each day at noon to invoke the Divine blessing upon the world-wide work. We ask all friends of the Sunday School to join with us at the noon hour in prayer to the "Lord of the Harvest."

FRANK L. BROWN.

OUR AIM

To promote the Missionary idea in Sunday School work.

To promote the Sunday School idea in Missionary work.

OUR POLICY FOR THE TRIENNIUM

As Adopted at the Philadelphia Meeting, April 23, 1914

To make effective the "Findings" of the Six Commissions which reported at the Zurich Convention, and especially in the following important respects:

1.—Co-operation

(a) To cultivate the closest possible relationship with mission boards and Sunday School and other agencies related to the work upon the fields.

2.—Organization

(b) To develop the organization of the fields within the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee in close co-operation with the agencies interested.

3.—Leadership

(c) To co-operate in the development of a Sunday School leadership in organization, pastoral, Missionary and teaching work.

4.—Literature

(d) To promote a literature for purposes of such training, and for the provision of pure reading for the children and the home.

5.—Publicity

(e) To promote upon the home and foreign fields a vision of the Sunday School as an effective instrument for the winning of the world to Christ, and as a place of enlistment for service.

Metropolitan Tower, New York City, Home of the World's Sunday School Association

The new office of the American Section of the World's Sunday School Association was opened on April 1, in the Metropolitan Tower, New York City. The office suite consists of three large, light, airy rooms on the twenty-first floor, overlooking what is, perhaps, the busiest and most densely populated area on this continent.

The view from this fifty-story tower is one of the sights of New York City which attracts many visitors. Our out-of-town friends are cordially invited to visit us when they are in New York.

RESIGNATION OF MR. FRED A. WELLS

At the April, 1914, meeting of the Central Committee of the World's Sunday School Association the resignation of the Treasurer, Mr. Fred A. Wells, was tendered and accepted. Mr. Wells made it clear that his step was prompted solely by consideration of the highest welfare of the Association. He thought that, with the new Headquarters in New York City, the Treasurer should be a New York man who could give the work his personal attention throughout the year.

The following expression of appreciation was unanimously passed:

Appreciation of Fred A. Wells

"The Executive Committee of the American Section of the World's Sunday School Association in accepting the resignation of Mr. Fred A. Wells desires to record its hearty appreciation of the six years of service which he has given to the work of Treasurer. During the six years of Mr. Wells' administration the resources of the Association have been steadily developed. His plans for conserving the ingathering and expenditure of the funds have been in the highest degree businesslike. He has imparted to his work and to those who have co-operated with him an unusual degree of enthusiasm for this service. The change in the office of Treasurer is made only at his earnest request, and in order to give larger effectiveness to the work of the new Headquarters by the election of a man in proximity to the New York office. The quality of Mr. Wells' work, in the midst of a busy business career, is the finest evidence of his consecration.

It is a matter of congratulation to the Association that Mr. Wells has accepted the office of Assistant Treasurer, which will retain him as a member of the Executive Committee and will give the work the benefit of his counsel and aid."

Mr. Arthur M. Harris

THE NEW TREASURER

Mr. Wells nominated as his successor Mr. Arthur M. Harris, of the well-known banking firm of Harris, Forbes & Co., New York City, one of the largest bond houses in America. Mr. Harris is one of the most prominent laymen in the Baptist Church of the United States. He is Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Baptist Ministers' and Missionaries' Benefit Fund of the Northern Baptist Convention, and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the New Jersey State Sunday School Association, Vice-President of the Army Branch of the Y. M. C. A. of New York City, as well as the Superintendent of a flourishing Sunday School in the First Baptist Church, Plainfield, N. J.

HON. JOHN WANAMAKER ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Hon. John Wanamaker, who has been for a number of years an honorary Vice-President of the World's Sunday School Association, was elected to the Executive Committee at the Philadelphia meeting, and has expressed his willingness to serve. Mr. Wanamaker, because of his long and successful connection with Sunday School work, and his eminence in business and public affairs, will be a valuable addition to the committee.

STRONG MEN FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. John R. Mott, Chairman of the Continuation Committee of the Edinburgh Conference, and Dr. Edgar Blake, Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Board of Sunday Schools, have been elected advisory members of the Executive Committee of the World's Sunday School Association.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

SOUTH AMERICA

From the Rev. H. C. Tucker, President of the Brazil Sunday School Union, there comes an encouraging message concerning the Sunday School work in the big republic. He writes that there is eager interest awakening throughout the churches, and that now is the strategic time for an advance in Sunday School work.

Mr. Tucker has just completed a series of Sunday School Conventions, and is planning for a State Convention in the State of Sao Paulo; mass meetings and conferences at two points in the State of Parana; a convention at Port Alegre, in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, and a Sunday School mass meeting and conference of workers at Uruguana in the same state.

The Republic of Uruguay will then be visited. The World's Association has just contributed $200.00 for the translation of a teacher-training book for use in Brazil. Secretaries are in prospect also for Argentina and for the western coast, to do work similar to that now being done so efficiently in Brazil.

JAPAN

Tokyo Convention Date Fixed—October 18-25, 1916

From cable advices received from Japan it is now possible to fix definitely the date of the Eighth World's Sunday School Convention at October 18-25, 1916. This date is about a month before the expected coronation of the Emperor, and Japan will be at her best, as it is the time for the blooming of the chrysanthemum, for which Japan is famous.

Count Okuma, the New Japanese Premier

While the attention of the world is being focused upon Japan's new Premier, Count Shigenobu Okuma, it is a great satisfaction to the friends of the Sunday School to know that this great Japanese statesman is also a warm friend of the Sunday School. Count Okuma, as is well known, is one of the Japanese promoters of the Tokyo Convention, and has manifested the most lively interest in the cause. He is Chairman of the Convention Patrons' Association. When he was asked if he could still be chairman, now that he is the Prime Minister of the Empire, he answered, "Yes, to be sure; that will make no difference."

Hon. Soroku Ebara, Chairman of General Committee

Until quite recently Count Okuma was also Chairman of the General Committee to promote the World's Convention. He is now succeeded by the Hon. Soroku Ebara, of the House of Peers, a Christian statesman, and one of the speakers at the conferences held during the visit of the World's Association Commission on the Orient last year.

Japanese Souvenir for Each Convention Delegate

From the Sunday School Bulletin of the Federated Missions of Japan we learn that one of the plans of the local committee on the Convention is to present each delegate with a gift representing some characteristic Japanese production. This is a Japanese idea, and is typical of the enthusiasm with which they are working to make the Tokyo Convention the best ever held.

An Open Secret

Mr. Masavumi Kavada, Principal of the Middle School at Tokyo, who is now in America, commissioned by the Japanese Government to study educational plans, asked among the first questions after his arrival in New York what America was doing in moral education. He was taken to one of the Brooklyn Sunday Schools and, after inspection of the various departments from the Cradle Roll Class to the Adult, made this significant statement: "I can now see the secret of America's greatness. **You are studying one Book, and you are educating from the earliest years.** We shall want to start something similar when I return to Japan."

Tokyo Convention Cable Address

The National Sunday School Association of Japan has adopted as a cable address for the Convention the word "Raikes," in honor of Robert Raikes, the founder of the first Sunday School.

Educational Secretary for Japan

The Rev. Horace E. Coleman, of the Friends' Mission, who was Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements for the Heinz Oriental Tour Party of the World's Sunday School Association, has been chosen Sunday School Educational Secretary for Japan. He will arrive in this country in a short time, and will post himself on the latest and best methods of Religious Education before his return to Japan.

This is a new office whose purpose is to develop a Sunday School leadership in Japan among the students of theological seminaries, Sunday Schools, and other Christian institutions.

Tokyo School for Religious Education

Plans are being considered for the erection in Japan of an educational building of unique character. Everyone recognizes the great need in the so-called non-Christian lands for training in Christian leadership of all kinds, and especially is there need of trained Sunday School leadership. To meet this need for Japan the World's Sunday School Association purposes to erect, as part of the proposed Tokyo Christian University system, a school of Sunday School method, similar to the Hartford School of Religious Pedagogy at Hartford, Conn. This school will serve admirably to make permanent the Sunday School spirit and impulse which may be generated in Japan by the Tokyo Convention.

CHINA

Sunday Schools in Former Heathen Temples

The opportunity offered for a Sunday School advance in the young Chinese Republic to-day is positively staggering in magnitude. Some of the members of the World's Sunday School Association Oriental Tour party which circled the globe last year under the leadership of Mr. H. J. Heinz, Chairman, stopped off in the City of Kiukiang on the Yangste River. Kiukiang is a city of 82,000, and the center of a populous district of 5,000,000 souls. For nine years Miss Jennie F. Hughes, a Brooklyn Sunday School girl, has been the only foreign missionary in all that great district.

Miss Hughes is an enthusiastic Sunday School worker, and has done remarkable work. Her "Bible Women's Training School" is turning out trained Sunday School teachers continuously. Every day-school on her district is a Sunday School as well, and the teacher is usually also a superintendent and pastor. Over 2,000 boys and girls are numbered in these district schools. As a reward for attendance old picture post cards are given, for want of anything better to give. In the City of Kiukiang there are seven Sunday Schools with an attendance of 1500 pupils. The city authorities have been so favorably impressed by Miss Hughes' work that they have thrown open the Confucian and Buddhist temples for her free use as Sunday Schools.

KOREA

"A Little Child Shall Lead Them"

The revival spirit which seems to dominate all the new converts of Korea has caught even the Korean children. The Sunday School children are gathering in from the streets the boys and girls who are non-Christians. This is a new departure for Korea, for until recently only the children of Christian parents were in the Sunday School. Under the leadership of Rev. M. L. Swinehart, Rev. J. G. Holdcroft, Dr. Underwood, Dr. Noble and others, the campaign for bringing in the heathen boys and girls has been going on aggressively. Over 2500 were brought into the Sunday School in the Southern Presbyterian Mission alone through the efforts of Mr. Swinehart.

Influential Japanese Become Sunday School Scholars

An encouraging result of one of the conferences held in Japan and Korea by the World's Sunday School Association Commission to the Orient last year has just been reported in a letter from Dr. H. G. Underwood, of Seoul, Korea. As a result of a conference the members of the Presbyterian Japanese Church in Seoul were called together, and the head of the national forestry department, after

addressing all the members of the Church, announced that he was going to become a scholar in the Sunday School. Judge Watanabe, of the Court of Appeals, made the same announcement. As a result a large number of the members of the Church are now also members of the Sunday School. The action taken by the leaders was far more effective than their simply saying that they were going to attend the Sunday School; the definite statement that they were going to attend as scholars caused the others to fall into line. This is a new thing for the Japanese, who have heretofore left the Sunday School largely to the children.

THE PHILIPPINES

A Record Convention

A report from Acting Secretary, James L. McLaughlin, at the head of the Sunday School work in the Philippines, shows that he returned from Zurich fired with enthusiasm. As a result, by the writing of six hundred letters and by careful organization he was able to promote the best Sunday School Convention ever held in the Philippines, with a registration of 365, representing 160 different schools from 37 different provinces. After a remarkable convention a farewell Sunday afternoon meeting was held in one of the big theatres. The outlook for the Sunday School work in the Philippines continues to grow brighter. The World's Sunday School Association is planning to grasp the present strategic opportunity and put a secretary in the field on full time in the near future.

The Bonfire at Vigan

A remarkable bonfire occurrred recently in northern Luzon. Twenty-five hundred Bibles were publicly burned in the plaza of Vigan, the largest and most important city of that section. These Bibles had been distributed by Mr. James L. McLaughlin in connection with a cinematograph exhibit of scriptural films. The Roman Catholic authorities in turn gave a cinematograph exhibit, exacting as admission fee one of the thousands of Bibles that had

been distributed. Some 2,000 gave this strange fee, and then the Bibles were publicly burned on the plaza by the Catholic authorities. The result, however, was that on the day after the bonfire 3,000 additional Bibles were disposed of by the representatives of the American Bible Society. This unique advertisement of the Bible will doubtless make for the furtherance of the Gospel in the Philippines, as wide attention has been attracted to the event.

MOSLEM LANDS

The purpose of the Committee on Moslem Lands of the World's Association is to reach Moslem childhood. Its plans are made in co-operation with foreign missionary boards and their representatives on the field. This co-operation is assured through the executive officers and leading foreign representatives of the several societies.

The Committee

The members of this Committee are: Bishop J. C. Hartzell, of Africa; Dr. S. M. Zwemer, Cairo; Dr. E. F. Frease, Algiers; Dr. John Giffen and Miss Johnson, Egypt; and, as advisory members, Mr. E. K. Warren, Three Oaks, Mich., and Mr. Marion Lawrance, Chicago.

The Importance of the Task

There are 80,000,000 Moslem children under fourteen years of age, whose moral degradation is unparalleled even in barbaric heathenism. Moslem boys and girls form the most neglected part of the non-Christian world. "If this childhood cannot be reached and redeemed," says Bishop Hartzell, "there can be no world-victory for the Cross over the crescent, and the rule of Mohammedanism over more than 200,000,000, or one-seventh of the people of the world, will not only go on, but the numbers will continue rapidly to increase."

A Work of Wide Appeal

The money needed until October, 1916, when the Eighth World's Sunday School Convention meets in Tokyo, has been provided. Friends in Europe, led by Sir Robert Laidlaw, gave $6,000; and at a remarkable series of meetings held in America during twelve days in as many cities, the sum of $45,000 was subscribed.

The Treasurer's correspondence reveals the fact that the effort to help these neglected children has taken strong hold upon the hearts of American givers of all ages. From a Highland, N. Y., Sunday School comes a contribution from a cradle roll of a penny for each baby. What a beautiful thing it would be if every cradle roll class in the land could be started with the missionary spirit by doing something —however small—for the little tots born into the moral darkness of Mohammedanism! A letter from Toledo, Ohio, reads: "Enclosed please find check for $3 for March, April and May, for the Moslem fund from my class of girls. Hope to send one dollar per month as long as possible." Truly the Master has put this work upon the hearts of our people.

The Rev. and Mrs. Stephen Van R. Trowbridge

The First Sunday School Secretary for Work Among Moslems

The securing for Secretary of the Committee of the Rev. Stephen Van R. Trowbridge is another proof of providential leadership.

Mr. Trowbridge was graduated from Princeton University in 1902 and from Hartford Theological Seminary in 1905. He was for six years engaged in missionary work in Turkey, and for the last three years has been pastor of St. Paul's Congregationalist Church, Brooklyn, where he has had a most successful pastorate. Mrs. Trowbridge has also seen service in Turkey, and shares her husband's passion for the work.

Of his new work he writes:

"The children of Egypt and North Africa have before them the example of Mohammed just as the children of America have the life of Christ before them. But Mohammed yielded to one temptation after another. He could not say, 'He that hath seen me hath seen the Father,' because his life was marred by sensuality, intolerance, deceit and violence. Mohammed never took a child and placed him in the midst of his disciples. In fact, there is little chance under the iron rule of the Koran for the development of the real qualities of childhood.

"But the Sunday School movement, in full co-operation with the missionaries on the field, offers to the eighty million boys and girls throughout the Moslem world the vision of the face of Jesus and the sweet and holy influence of His friendship.

"Mrs. Trowbridge and I look forward eagerly to the new work in Cairo. Our earnest desire is that there may be a volume of heartfelt prayer throughout the Sunday Schools of the homeland that God's Spirit may give us courage and tact and perseverance to bring many of those dear children into the knowledge of the love of Christ."

Other Plans

Plans for the inauguration of the work in Egypt, Turkey-in-Europe, Albania, North Africa, East Arabia, Persia, and India are well advanced. Universities, colleges and theological seminaries are to be visited and, as the way opens, conferences held in the interests of reaching Moslem childhood and securing con-

secrated young men and women who will give their lives for this service. The work of preparing much-needed specialized literature has been begun. Trained specialists in Sunday School work are being secured for various fields, who, in co-operation with missionaries, will hold conferences on how best to reach Moslem children. The mission is one of love, inspiration and co-operation; all in the Spirit of Christ, and using the latest up-to-date methods.

Moslem Conferences of Dr. John R. Mott

A series of Moslem Conferences is to be held under the leadership of Dr. John R. Mott in Algiers, Cairo, Constantinople and Beirut, from January 15th to March 15th, 1915. Moslem Childhood will be one of the subjects for careful study. Bishop Hartzell, Mr. Frank L. Brown, and Rev. S. Van R. Trowbridge are planning to attend one or more of these important gatherings.

THE SAMARITANS

"I do not know of any more interesting—pathetically interesting—remnant on the face of the earth to-day than the Samaritan people."
—Prof. Charles C. Tarney, Yale University.

The Committee on the Samaritans, consisting of Mr. E. K. Warren, Chairman, Dr. Geo. W. Bailey and Rev. E. I. Rexford, reports that a school has been started among that people, with a teacher in Arabic and arithmetic, and one of the priests in Samaritan. A teacher is to be engaged for Hebrew. Plans are being made for a girls' school. The High Priest of the little remnant is filled with joy and gratitude to think that he has lived to see the day when his nation has "such friends across the sea." The local Palestine committee, consisting of Mr. S. C. Webb, an English missionary at Nablus, as chairman, and the Hon. John Whiting, U. S. Vice-consul at Jerusalem, is taking hold of the local responsibility splendidly.

DEPARTMENT FOR UTILIZING SURPLUS MATERIAL

More than 12,000 Sunday Schools and individuals have been related by this department to places of need on the foreign field. All sorts of used and new supplies have been sent, including thirteen organs and tons of pictures and papers. From all over the world missionaries are gratefully responding. The following expressions of gratitude are typical of the hundreds pouring into the office of the Superintendent of the Department, Rev. Samuel D. Price:

From Chiengmai, Siam—

Very many thanks for the pictures illustrating stories in Genesis, sent by Miss Elizabeth Senn, Laurens, S. C., at your suggestion. They are just what we need, and we could use a large number more of the same kind—either large rolls or small pictures—to excellent advantage. We begin on Monday a series in Genesis and Exodus which will cover many months. We are very grateful for your help. Many hundreds of persons have been baptized here since the new year began.

From Gura, Assam, India—

Very many thanks to you for the Sunday School picture cards sent to me. I distribute them to our village teachers and other workers, and they make good use of them in their teaching. Through your help I have also received two other picture cards that I am using. Many homes in this land have never been cheered by even so much as a post card picture. The people do appreciate such things, and we like to cheer and brighten up their lives as much as possible.

China Inland Mission, Tuhshan Kwei—

If those who send the gifts only knew how great a joy is brought to those who receive them they would feel more than repaid for their labor, trouble and expense.

"Utilizing Surplus Material"

This is a form of service in which any American Sunday School can have a part. Those who attend the International Convention in Chicago, June 23-30, 1914, should not fail to see the special display of literature and other material to demonstrate the work of this department. Those who cannot visit the exhibits at Chicago are invited to write for information to Rev. Samuel D. Price, 216 Metropolitan Tower, New York, giving full and exact name of their denomination, and enclosing stamp for reply.

EXHIBITS OF THE WORLD-WIDE WORK

Booth at the Chicago Convention

The International Association has granted the World's Association ample space in the Medinah Temple for a splendid exhibit of the main features of the Sunday School's activities on the "far-flung battle line" of the Kingdom. There will be a Japanese wisteria arbor, in which "Japanese" in the costume of the country will represent the interests of the next World's Convention at Tokyo. 'Rickishaws and cherry trees in blossom, with other things suggestive of the Island Empire, will give the prospective delegate a faint fore-taste of the

flavor he may enjoy to the full in October, 1916.

The Moslem exhibit will be of unusual interest. A real goats' hair Arab tent will be pitched in a miniature desert, and its occupants in Bedouin garb will give information on the many sides of work among the Moslem children.

The Department for Utilizing Surplus Material will also be represented with a display of literature in the Medinah Temple; and in addition to this the Superintendent, Rev. Samuel D. Price, will give lectures illustrated with stereopticon in several of the Chicago churches. Slides illustrating the trip of the Commission Tour party to the Orient will also be shown.

Booth for the Panama-Pacific Exposition, 1915

Mr. Harry Morton, of San Francisco, has been requested by the Executive Committee of the World's Association to take charge of the project of exhibiting the world-wide Sunday School work at the Panama-Pacific Exposition next year.

"Strength of the World's Sunday School Army"

The booklet containing the statistics of the Sunday School as revised to January 1, 1914, is one of the very best compilations of its kind that has yet appeared. It has given such universal satisfaction that the Executive Committee has expressed in a resolution its appreciation of the work of the statistical secretary, Mr. Hugh Cork, of Chicago, representing the American Section of the World's Committee.

The book contains 48 pages and nearly 200 pictures in colors of the flags of all nations. By the side of each flag is given the number of Sunday Schools in that nation, the number of officers and teachers, pupils of all ages, the total enrollment, the population of the country, and the proportion of the population in the Sunday School. The grand total of Sunday School membership is shown to be 30,015,037, an increase of 2,003,843 in three years.

The book may be had from the World's Headquarters at ten cents a copy, or 75 cents a dozen, post paid. For prices on larger quantities write to World's Sunday School Association, 216 Metropolitan Tower, New York City.